

KNOWLEDGE REGARDING BLOOD DONATION AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN SELECTED COLLEGE AT KARAIKAL

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ABSTRACT

Blood can save millions of life and young people are the hope and future of a safe blood supply in the world. India needs about 6-7.5 million units of blood annually and every year there is gradually increase in this demand. Assessment of awareness regarding blood donation will help in designing effective health education strategy to improve blood donation. To assess the level of knowledge regarding blood donation among undergraduate students and to find out association between knowledge regarding blood donation with selected demographic variables.: A descriptive study using a semi structured and pre-tested questionnaire in selected college of karaikal. Out of 80 students, only 3 (4%) students had adequate knowledge, 44 (55%) students had moderate knowledge, and remaining 33 (41%) students had inadequate knowledge and also there was significant association between knowledge scores of under graduate students with their with their religion, educational qualification of mother, Family income, Experience of participation in awareness program on blood donation at 5% ($p<0.05$) level. From the findings of the current study it can be concluded that majority of the undergraduate students had moderate knowledge on blood donation.

Keywords: Blood Donation, Blood transfusion, WHO

INTRODUCTION

Blood is described as a connective tissue. It provides one of the means of communication between the cells of different parts of the body and it is composed of a fluid part called plasma and a cellular mass called Corpuscles. The cell mass is also called as formed elements.

Blood can save millions of life and young people are the hope and future of a safe blood supply in the world. India needs about 6-7.5 million units of blood annually and every year there is gradually increase in this demand. National blood donation policy of India highlights on the need of supplying safe and quality blood to the needy through collecting blood from regular voluntary blood donors.

Ignorance, Fear and miss concepts about blood donations and lack of voluntary blood donations organizations are major constraints in many developing countries to facilitate voluntary blood donation. Considering the estimated shortfall of 3-4 million units of blood annually in India, more awareness must be created among all strata of population, especially among youngsters on importance of blood donation.

According to WHO an estimated 38% of reported voluntary blood donations are contribute by people under the age of 25. WHO also insist countries to focus on young people to achieve 100 percent voluntary unpaid blood donations.

World Blood Donor Day celebrated on 14th June is an annual event officially designated by world health assembly to recognize and thank millions of voluntary blood donors. The aim is to create wide awareness to the importance of voluntary blood donation and to encourage more people to become regular blood donors.

Blood Donation Statistics shows, in the year 2010, Karnataka Only 52% of voluntary blood donation is achieved. In every 100 patients entering the hospital, 7 patients need blood. Females are receiving about 53% and males are receiving about 45% of blood transfusion. About 15% of non-donors have never thought of donating. Everyday more than 38,000 blood donations are needed. If all blood donors donate blood thrice in a year, then blood shortages would be a rare event. A single victim of a car accident would require about 100 units of blood. Most of the cancer patients need blood on a daily basis during their treatment. The need of blood comes at an interval of every 2 seconds.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Research approach

For the present study quantitative approach has been selected.

Research design

Non experimental descriptive research design

Setting of the study

The study was conducted in Avvaiyar government arts and science college for women, Karaikal.

Population

In this study target population comprise of students studying in Avvaiyar Government arts and science college for women, Karaikal.

Sample

Samples for the present study was first year under graduate students studying in Avvaiyar government arts and science college for women, karaikal.

Sample size

The sample size consists of 80 first year undergraduate students

Sampling technique

Simple random sampling technique by using lottery method.

Selection criteria

The samples were selected based on the following criteria

- Under graduate students belonging to first year.
- Students who are present at the time of data collection.
- Students who are willing to participate
- Students who can understand Tamil and English.

Data analysis: Data was entered in Microsoft Excel and analyzed using SPSS (Statistical Package for Social sciences). Data are expressed as mean, standard deviation and percentages. Chi-square test was applied to find the association of knowledge regarding blood donation.

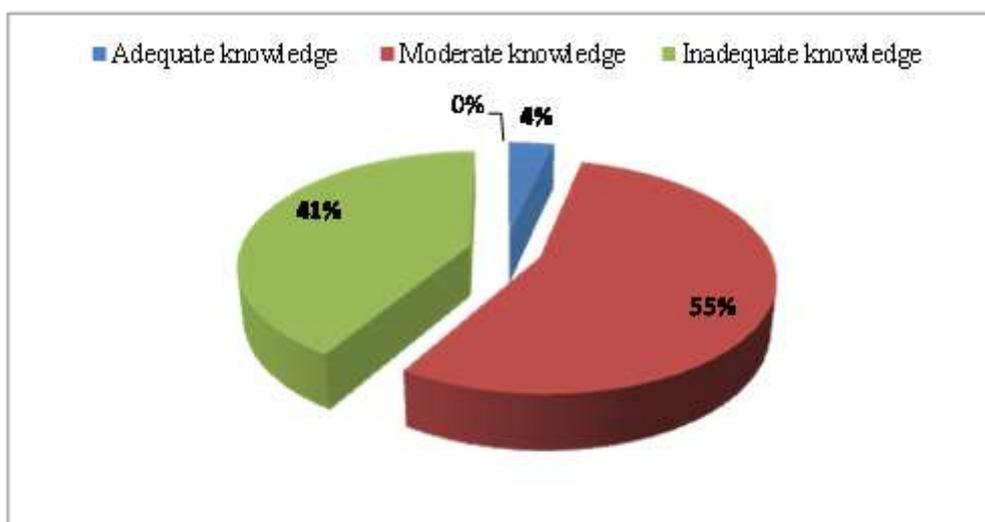
RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

1. Assessment of knowledge on blood donation among undergraduate students.

Table 1: Knowledge on blood donation among undergraduate students (n=80)

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Adequate knowledge	3	4
Moderate knowledge	44	55

Inadequate knowledge	33	41
Total	80	100



- Assessment of association between knowledge on blood donation among undergraduate students with selected demographic variables

Table 2: Association socio-demographic variables with knowledge regarding blood donation

Sl.No.	Demographic variable	p-value	χ^2 value	Level of significant	
1	Religion	0.048	8.106	Significant	
2	Educational status	0.013	12.648	Significant	
2	Educational qualification of parents	Father	0.957	1.535	NS
		Mother	0.040	13.184	Significant
3	Family income per month	0.003	19.558	Significant	
4	Experience of participated in awareness program on blood donation	0.019	7.894	Significant	

*- Significant at 5% ($p < 0.05$) level

Totally 44 (55%) subjects were moderate knowledge regarding blood donation and 33(41%) subjects were not aware about blood donation, only 3(4%) knew about correct frequency of blood donation. There was significant association between knowledge on blood donation among undergraduate students with their religion, educational status, educational qualification of mother, Family income, Experience of participated in awareness program on blood donation at 5% ($p < 0.05$) level and the other demographic variables such as age, Domicile, Educational qualification of father, Sources of information on blood donation, Experience of visited blood bank, Experience of motivated other to donate blood are not having significant association with knowledge score on blood donation.

CONCLUSION

Majority of the undergraduate students had moderate knowledge on blood donation. Regular blood donation campaigns should be organized in colleges and communities to increase knowledge among students. Students should be aware by the teachers, health professionals, government and concerned agencies regarding the needs and benefits of blood donation. Formulation of health club and committee should be prioritized at college and community level to increase knowledge of students related to blood donation services.

Recommendation

1. The study can be replicated on a large sample of adolescents selected from different colleges for wider generalization of the findings.
2. A comparative study can be conducted between the adolescent boys and girls.
3. Interventional study can be conducted by using different teaching methods to improve the knowledge on blood donation among college students.

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